

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9-14, and 16-27 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 12, and 16 are currently amended. Claims 4 and 15 have been cancelled.

Independent claims 1 and 12 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of corresponding dependent claims 4 and 15. Dependent claims 5 and 16 have been amended to reflect the new claim (numbering) dependency.

Subject matter indicated to be allowable

The undersigned appreciates the Examiner's indication that the subject matter of claims 4-5 and 15-16 is allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1 and 12 have been re-written to accordingly incorporate the limitations of corresponding dependent claims 4 and 15. Since claim 24 has been indicated as allowable, all of the remaining claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from a claim which has been indicated as being allowable (i.e., from independent claims 1, 12 or 24), it is believed that all pending claims, 1, 2, 5-7, 9-14, and 16-27, should now be allowable over the cited art.

Although no additional fees are believed to be due, the Office is authorized to charge any additionally required fees to deposit account 12-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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